

using a CPU of the first device, determining whether said digital file may be stored on a second device based on said at least one control;  
if said at least one control allows at least a portion of said digital file to be stored on a second device,  
copying at least a portion of said digital file;  
transferring at least a portion of said digital file to a second device including a memory and an audio and/or video output;  
storing said digital file in said memory of said second device; and  
rendering said digital file through said output.

92. A method as in claim 91, in which, said digital file includes music; and said rendering step includes playing said music through said audio output.

93. A method as in claim 92, in which:  
said receiving step comprises receiving said digital file on a video disk.

94. A method as in claim 93, in which:  
said receiving step further comprises receiving said information on said video disk.

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95. A method as in claim 94, in which  
said information received on said video disk includes at least one control  
governing a first use that may be made of at least one digital file stored on said video  
disk.

96. A method as in claim 95, in which:  
said first use comprises a use that may be made of such digital file at said first  
device.

97. A method as in claim 96, in which:  
said first use includes at least the making of at least one copy of said digital file at  
said first device and transferring said copy to a second device.

98. A method as in claim 92, in which:  
said second device is a portable device.

99. A method as in claim 92, in which:  
said transferring step further comprises  
transferring at least one control associated with said digital file; and  
storing said at least one control at said second device.

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100. A method as in claim 92, in which:  
said information includes at least one budget control and at least one copy control.
101. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said digital file and said information are received on a video disk.
102. A method as in claim 101, in which:  
said information comprises budget information relating to permitted uses of said digital file.
103. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said determining step includes identifying said second device and determining whether said first control allows transfer of said copied file to said second device.
104. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said digital file is transferred to said second device in an encrypted state, and further comprising:  
decrypting said digital file prior to said rendering step.
105. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said second device includes a tamper-resistant housing.

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106. A method as in claim 105, in which:  
said memory of said second device comprises random access memory.

107. A method as in claim 106, in which:  
said random access memory constitutes nonvolatile random access memory.

108. A method as in claim 107, in which:  
said second device includes at least one battery.

109. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said first device includes a secure processing unit.

110. A method as in claim 91, in which:  
said second device comprises a speaker.

111. A method comprising:  
receiving a digital file at a first device;  
establishing communication between said first device and a clearinghouse located at a location remote from said first device;  
said first device obtaining authorization information from said clearinghouse; and  
said first device using said authorization information to gain access to or make at least one use of said first digital file;

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storing said first digital file in a memory of said first device;  
using at least a first control to determine whether said first digital file may be copied and stored on a second device;  
if said first control allows at least a portion of said first digital file to be copied and stored on a second device,  
copying at least a portion of said first digital file;  
transferring at least a portion of said first digital file to a second device including a memory and an audio and/or video output;  
storing said first digital file portion in said memory of said second device; and  
rendering said first digital file portion through said output.

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112. A method as in claim 111 in which:

said authorization information includes at least one key;  
and further comprising:  
using said at least one key to decrypt at least a portion of said first digital file.

113. A method as in claim 111, in which:

said determining step is based at least in part on identification information regarding said second device.

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114. A method as in claim 113, in which:  
said first control authorizes or fails to authorize said transfer to said second device based at least in part on said identification information.
115. A method as in claim 111, in which:  
said first digital file portion is transferred to said second device in an encrypted state,  
and further comprising:  
decrypting said first digital file prior to said rendering step.
116. A method as in claim 111, in which:  
said second device includes a tamper-resistant housing.
117. A method as in claim 116, in which:  
said memory of said second device comprises random access memory.
118. A method as in claim 117, in which:  
said random access memory constitutes nonvolatile random access memory.
119. A method as in claim 118, in which:  
said second device includes at least one battery.

120. A method as in claim 119, in which:

    said first device includes a secure processing unit.

121. A method as in claim 111, in which:

    said second device comprises a speaker.

122. A method comprising:

    receiving a first digital file at a first device;

    establishing communication between said first device and a first clearinghouse located at a location remote from said first device;  
    said first device obtaining information from said first clearinghouse and using said information to gain access to or make at least one use of said first digital file;

    storing said first digital file in a memory of said first device;

    receiving a second digital file at said first digital device;

    establishing communication between said first device and a second clearinghouse located at a location remote from said first device,

    said first device obtaining information from said second clearinghouse and said using said information to gain access to or make at least one use of said second digital file;

    storing said second digital file in a memory of said first device;

    using at least a first control to determine whether some or all of said first digital file may be copied and stored on a second device;

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if said first control allows at least a portion of said first digital file to be copied and stored on a second device:

copying at least a portion of said first digital file;

transferring said first digital file portion to a second device including a memory and an audio and/or video output; and

storing said first digital file portion in said memory of said second device;

using at least a second control to determine whether some or all of said second digital file may be copied and stored on said second device;

if said second control allows at least a portion of said second digital file to be copied and stored on said second device:

copying at least a portion of said second digital file;

transferring said second digital file portion to said second device;

storing said second digital file portion in said memory of said second device while said first digital file portion is also stored in said memory; and

rendering said first or said second digital file portion through said output.

123. A method as in claim 122, in which:

said first clearinghouse and said second clearinghouse are the same clearinghouse.

124. A method as in claim 122, in which:

said first clearinghouse and said second clearinghouse are different clearinghouses.

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125. A method as in claim 122, in which:

    said first digital file is received on a first portable memory, and

    said second digital file is received on a second portable memory, different from  
    said first portable memory.

126. A method as in claim 125, in which:

    said first portable memory and said second portable memory are disks.

127. A method as in claim 126, further comprising:

    prior to said step of receiving said first digital file at said first device, storing said  
    first digital file in a first secure container,

    said first secure container including said first digital file and at least one  
    control governing at least one aspect of use of or access to said first digital file while  
    said first digital file is contained in said first secure container,

    said first secure container being stored on said first portable memory; and

    prior to said step of receiving said second digital file at said first device, storing  
    said first digital file in a second secure container,

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said second secure container including said second digital file and at least one control governing at least one aspect of use of or access to said second digital file while said second digital file is contained in said second secure container,

said second secure container being stored on said second portable memory.

128. A method as in claim 127, in which:

said step of storing said first digital file at said first device includes removing said first digital file from said first secure container; and

said step of storing said second digital file at said first device includes removing said second digital file from said second secure container.

129. A method as in claim 128, in which:

said step of transferring said first digital file portion to said second device includes storing said first digital file portion in a third secure container, said third secure container including said first digital file portion and at least one control governing at least one aspect of use or access to any file contained within said third secure container; and

said step of transferring said second digital file portion to said second device includes storing said second digital file portion in said third secure container.

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130. A method as in claim 129, in which:

at least one of said third secure container controls governs at least one use that may be made of said first digital file portion and said second digital file portion while said first digital file portion and said second digital file portion are stored in said memory of said second device.

131. A method as in claim 130, in which:

said at least one of said third secure container controls restricts the ability of a user of said second device to make copies of said first digital file portion and said second digital file portion while said first digital file portion and said second digital file portion are stored in said memory of said second device.

132. A method as in claim 131, in which:

said restriction imposed by said at least one of said third secure container controls constitutes a prohibition on the creation by said second device of any copies of said first digital file portion or said second digital file portion.

133. A method as in claim 132, in which:

said first secure container controls include at least a first budget; and  
said second secure container controls include at least a second budget.

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